# State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation Honolulu, Hawaii

June 14, 2013

Board of Land and Natural Resources State of Hawaii Honolulu, HI

ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT ACTION FOR VIOLATION OF HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULE, SECTION 13-231-26, USE OF A VESSEL AS A PLACE OF PRINCIPAL HABITATION, KEEHI SMALL BOAT HARBOR, TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS: STEPHANIE APONTE, KENNETH LEVITT, RICHARD CZERCOWY, AND SANDRA BAUER

#### STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §§ 200-9 and 200-14.5

#### BACKGROUND and DISCUSSION:

HRS, Section 200-9(b), states, "(b) Vessels used for purposes of recreational boating activities that are also the principal habitation of the owners shall occupy no more than one hundred twenty-nine berths at Ala Wai boat harbor and thirty-five berths at Keehi boat harbor, which is equal to fifteen per cent of the respective total moorage space that was available as of July 1, 1976, at the Ala Wai and Keehi boat harbors."

Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), §13-231-26(a)(1), states, "(a) A vessel owner who holds a valid regular mooring permit issued by the department authorizing the owner to moor the owner's vessel in Ala Wai or Keehi boat harbor may use that vessel as a place of principal habitation if the owner has applied for and secured:

(1) A principal habitation permit;"

Over the years, staff has continued to receive complaints that individuals are using vessels as their place of principal habitation within the Ala Wai and Keehi small boat harbors without obtaining the proper permits and at times exceeding the allowable number set in the HRS.

Staff has made numerous attempts to address this issue that include verbally notifying the vessel owners of the statute and rules, writing letters, and conducting night inspections in order to verify the allegations. Due to the limited resources and staff time, this approach seems to be effective in the short term but over time the unwanted behavior returns and staff has to start the process all over again.

Administrative Enforcement Action for Violation of Hawaii Administrative Rule, Section 13-231-26, Use of a Vessel as a Place of Principal Habitation, Keehi Small Boat Harbor, to the Following Individuals: Stephanie Aponte, Kenneth Levitt, Richard Czercowy, and Sandra Bauer June 14, 2013

Item J-4

In order to address this issue on a more permanent basis, staff devised a plan to document whether a person was actually using a vessel as a place of principal habitation without a valid principal habitation permit. Since verbal warnings were having little to no effect with changing the behavior of people found to be residing on the vessel without a valid permit, it was decided that the matter would be brought before the Board for administrative enforcement action.

The plan involved Staff informing individuals suspected of using a vessel as a place of principal habitation without a valid permit that they were in violation of the HRS and HAR, letters were then sent certified mail to the individuals suspected of using a vessel as a place of principal habitation (Exhibit A), and finally, staff, along with the Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement (DOCARE) Officers, conducted a site visit that confirmed certain individuals were in fact on the vessels without valid permits (Exhibit B, DOCARE & DOBOR Investigation Reports).

On April 12, 2013, the Board authorized the issuance of administrative fines to individuals that were found aboard their vessel without the proper stay aboard or principal habitation permits at the Ala Wai small boat harbor. The Board issued \$1,000.00 fines to the owners of the vessels that were found to be in violation of the HRS and HAR. We informed the Board that we would be bringing a similar request for an administrative enforcement action against individuals residing on their vessels in the Keehi small boat harbor without valid permits. We have finished our investigation and the findings are contained in Exhibit B.

HRS, 200-14.5, authorizes the Board to set, charge, and collect administrative fines and recover administrative costs. The citations are listed below for convenience.

[§200-14.5] General administrative penalties. (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, the board is authorized to set, charge, and collect administrative fines and to recover administrative fees and costs, including attorney's fees and costs, or bring legal action to recover administrative fines and fees and costs, including attorney's fees and costs, or payment for damages or for the cost to correct damages resulting from a violation of subtitle 8 of title 12 or any rule adopted thereunder. Each day or instance of violation shall constitute a separate offense.

- (b) For violations involving pollution of the waters of the State, the administrative fine shall be as follows:
- (1) For a first violation or a violation beyond five years of a previous violation, a fine of not more than \$10,000;
- (2) For a second violation within five years of a previous violation, by a fine of not more than \$15,000; and
- (3) For a third or subsequent violation within five years of the last violation, by a fine of not more than \$25,000.
- (c) For all other violations the administrative fine shall be as follows:
- (1) For a first violation or a violation beyond five years of a previous violation, a fine of not more than \$5,000;

Administrative Enforcement Action for Violation of Hawaii Administrative Rule, Section 13-231-26, Use of a Vessel as a Place of Principal Habitation, Keehi Small Boat Harbor, to the Following Individuals: Stephanie Aponte, Kenneth Levitt, Richard Czercowy, and Sandra Bauer

Item J-4

- (2) For a second violation within five years of a previous violation, by a fine of not more than \$10,000; and
- (3) For a third or subsequent violation within five years of the last violation, by a fine of not more than \$15,000.
- (d) Any criminal action against a person for any violation of subtitle 8 of title 12 or any rule adopted thereunder shall not preclude the State from pursuing civil legal action to recover administrative fines, fees and costs, or damages against that person. Any civil legal action to recover administrative fines, fees and costs, or damages for any violation of subtitle 8 of title 12 or any rule adopted thereunder shall not preclude the State from pursuing any appropriate criminal action against that person. All fines, fees and costs, or damages recovered by the department under this section shall be deposited in the boating special fund. [L 1999, c 41, §1]

Staff believes that unless there are consequences for violating the HRS and HAR people do not have an incentive to abide by the rules or the direction of Harbor Staff. In order to send a strong message and curb this continued violation of the rules, the recommendation from staff is to issue a one thousand dollar fine (\$1,000.00) to the vessel owners named above.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

#### That the Board:

- 1. Find that an administrative infraction of HAR section 13-231-26 was committed and that the individuals listed above committed the infractions.
- 2. Issue a one thousand dollar fine to the owners of the vessel found aboard contrary to 13-231-26 and without a valid permit at the time of the incident.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward R. Underwood

Administrator

Attachments

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL

William J. Aila, Jr.

mupple

Chairperson







### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

KEEHI BOAT HARBOR
4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
PHONE: (808) 832-3464
FAX: (808) 832-3419

February 13, 2013

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHARPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

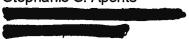
ESTHER KIA'AINA FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

EDWARD R. UNDERWOOD
ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

**BOR-OK 0111.13** 

Stephanie S. Aponte



Dear Ms. Aponte:

SUBJECT: LIVING AND/OR STAYING ABOARD THE VESSEL, Reg. No. HA 8965 E WITHOUT PERMISSION OR AUTHORIZATION.

It has been brought to our attention that there may be people living and/or staying board vessels at the Keehi Small Boat Harbor in violation of Sections 13-231-26 and/or 13-231-28, Hawaii Administrative Rules, and section 200-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Hawaii Administrative Rules limit the number of harbor resident permits issued at the Keehi Boat Harbor to 35. Currently there is no waiting list for harbor resident permits. Only the owner, co-owner, spouse of each, and their legal dependants may be issued a harbor resident permit. Any person who is living aboard a vessel without a harbor resident permit is in violation of Section 200-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and harbor rules and must immediately make other living arrangements. Anyone who desires to live on their vessel should submit an application to be a harbor resident. Until they receive a permit, they may not live aboard their vessel. If anyone else is living aboard the vessel, they must immediately move off the vessel.

Tenants who do have a harbor resident permit may "stay aboard" and "vacation" aboard their vessel. Hawaii Administrative Rules define "stay aboard" as three or less days per calendar week not to exceed 90 days per calendar year. "Vacation" is defined as 4 or more days per calendar week, not to exceed 30 days per calendar year. Notice must be given to the Keehi Boat Harbor office, in writing prior, to anyone "staying aboard" or "vacationing" aboard their vessel. Midnight through 6:00 a.m. are the violation hours which require a harbor resident permit, stay aboard notice, or a vacation notice. With a harbor resident permit, stay aboard permit or vacation permit, only the owner, co-owner, spouse of each, their legal dependents and their non-paying guests while in the company of the owner may be aboard during the violation hours.

Ms. Stephanie S. Aponte February 13, 2013 Page Two

Be advised that an effort is under way to identify and confirm who is unlawfully living or staying aboard vessels. This is due to the growing number of complaints of violations, and requests from tenants for us to take action. If someone is found to be unlawfully aboard a vessel, action will be taken. This action may consist of a citation, revocation of mooring privileges, non issuance of a mooring permit upon expiration of the existing mooring permit or other administrative remedies. The revocation or expiration of a mooring permit would then require the vessel to be immediately removed from the Keehi Small Boat Harbor or be subject to citations and/or impoundment.

Ånyone who is in violation of Section 200-9, HRS and the harbor administrative rules must immediately cease staying aboard or living aboard the vessel. I can be reached at the phone number and address listed above from 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. We are closed Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays.

Very truly yours,

Debra Dudoit

Keehi Harbormaster

Cc:

Stephanie S. Aponte, Stephanie S. Aponte,

Oahu District Manager

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION DIVISION STATE OF HAWAII

KEEHI BOAT HARBOR 4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

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Stephanie S. Aponte

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DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF HAWAII

BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION DIVISION

KEEHI BOAT HARBOR

4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

BOR-OK 0111.13

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## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

KEEHI BOAT HARBOR 4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 PHONE: (808) 832-3464 FAX: (808) 832-3419

February 13, 2013

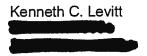
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. CHARPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> ESTHER KIA'AINA FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

EDWARD R. UNDERWOOD
ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

BOR-OK 0111.13



Dear Mr. Levitt:

### SUBJECT: LIVING AND/OR STAYING ABOARD THE VESSEL, Reg. No. HA 9322 C WITHOUT PERMISSION OR AUTHORIZATION.

It has been brought to our attention that there may be people living and/or staying board vessels at the Keehi Small Boat Harbor in violation of Sections 13-231-26 and/or 13-231-28, Hawaii Administrative Rules, and section 200-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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Mr. Kenneth C. Levitt February 13, 2013 Page Two

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Anyone who is in violation of Section 200-9, HRS and the harbor administrative rules must immediately cease staying aboard or living aboard the vessel. I can be reached at the phone number and address listed above from 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. We are closed Saturdays, Sundays, and State holidays.

Very truly yours,

Debra Dudoit

Keehi Harbormaster

Cc:

Kenneth C. Levitt, **2018**Oahu District Manager

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NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

KEEHI BOAT HARBOR 4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 PHONE: (808) 832-3464 FAX: (808) 832-3419

February 13, 2013

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

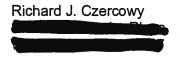
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WILLIAM M. TAM DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

EDWARD R. UNDERWOOD

ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

BOR-OK 0111.13



Dear Mr. Czercowy:

SUBJECT: LIVING AND/OR STAYING ABOARD THE VESSEL, Reg. No. HA 0883 C WITHOUT PERMISSION OR AUTHORIZATION.

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Mr. Richard J. Czercowy February 13, 2013 Page Two

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Very truly yours,

Débra Dudoit

Keehi Harbormaster

Cc:

Oahu District Manager

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#### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

**KEEHI BOAT HARBOR** 4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817 PHONE: (808) 832-3464 FAX: (808) 832-3419

February 13, 2013

WILLIAM J. AILA. JR. BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
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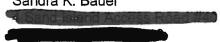
ESTHER KIA'AINA FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM

EDWARD R. UNDERWOOD ADMINISTRATOR DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION

BOR-OK 0111.13

Sandra K. Bauer



Dear Ms. Bauer:

SUBJECT: LIVING AND/OR STAYING ABOARD THE VESSEL, U.S. COAST GUARD DOCUMENTED No. 534693 WITHOUT PERMISSION OR AUTHORIZATION.

It has been brought to our attention that there may be people living and/or staying board vessels at the Keehi Small Boat Harbor in violation of Sections 13-231-26 and/or 13-231-28, Hawaii Administrative Rules, and section 200-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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Ms. Sandra K. Bauer February 13, 2013 Page Two

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Very truly yours,

Keehi Harbormaster

Sandra K. Bauer, Cc:

Oahu District Manager

DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES **BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION DIVISION** STATE OF HAWAII

KEEHI BOAT HARBOR 4 SAND ISLAND ACCESS ROAD HONOLULU, HAWAII 96819

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## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND & NATURAL RESOURCES KEEHI SMALL BOAT HARBOR VOICE #(808) 832-3464 FAX #(808) 832-3419

#### \*\*\* MEMORANDUM \*\*\*

Date:

5/22/13

To:

**BOR-O: Meghan Statts** 

From:

BOR-OK; Debbie

Subject:

Keehi midnight walk on 3/9/13

On March 9, 2013, at approximately 12:30 am, a midnight walk, was conducted at Keehi Small Boat Harbor for possible illegal stayaboard/liveaboard tenants. Five DOCARE officers were present along with myself. We started on the 400 pier and ended on the 800 pier.

The following is a brief statement of what occurred:

Slip 435: owner - Aponte, Stephanie

Upon arriving at the vessel, HA 8965 E, we knocked on the vessel and announced ourselves. Owner, Stephanie Aponte, stated that she just flew in from Maui, arrived in Honolulu late, and didn't want to drive all the way home. I explained the rules and the options she has. If she had any other questions, to contact our office.

Slip 619: owner - Levitt, Kenneth

Upon arriving at the vessel, HA 9322 C, we knocked on the vessel and announced ourselves. Owner, Kenneth Levitt, stated that he just got off late from work. I explained the rules and the options he has. If he had any other questions, to contact our office.

Slip 822: owner – Czercowy, Richard

Upon arriving at the vessel, HA 0883 C, we knocked on the vessel and announced ourselves. Owner, Richard Czercowy, he told us he was drinking earlier in the day, later started feeling sick, then fell asleep on the boat. I explained the rules and the options he has. If he had any other questions, to contact our office.

Slip 924: owner - Bauer, Sandra

Upon arriving at the vessel, "SHIBUI", we knocked on the vessel and announced ourselves. Owner, Sandra Bauer, stated that she was not feeling well. She told me she normally stays on Alex's boat. She said she didn't know she couldn't stay on her boat. I explained the rules and the options she has. If she had any other questions, to contact our office.

#### STATE OF HAWAII

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												Ph.	587-0077
11. LOCATION C	F OFFENSE	AND C	LOSES	TINTERS	ECTING ST	REET	1 12	DATE	/TIME/DAY (	20011	2000		
State of Hawa	ii Keehi Sr	nali Bo	at Har	bor			12.		)9-13/000(				13. DATE/TIMEREPORTED SAME AS #12
14. DESCRIBE L	OCATION O	F OFFEI	VSE OF	TYPE O	F PREMISE	8			70 101000	or stall	uluay	لـــ	
TO HOW REPORTED											On beat		
16. VEHICLE INVOLVED	Year	Make		Model	det Color(s) License No. I.D. Characteristics								
17. BOAT	1000												
INVOLVED	Length	Make		Model	Colo	r(s)	Na	me		HA	No.	Т	I.D. Characteristics
18. REGISTERE		Address											
									Res. Phone				
CODE: W = Witness S = Suspect (Fill in Composite Description) R = Reporting Person O = Other													
15. RANG		Age	Sex	Code	Add	1955						Res.	. Phone Bus. Phone
20. SEX Compo	ite Descripti		het		0.71								
20. SEX Composite Description hgt Wt.				1 1					Ciothes/i.D. Characteristics				
21. INVESTIGATION: 1. Insert a synopsis of the crime of incident. 2. Summarize details of the crime or incident. 3. Denote persons from whom statements taken and who took them. 4. Identify additional suspects and witnesses. 5. Identify additional investigators. 6. Use opposite side for continuation of report, if necessary.													
<b>SYNOPSIS</b>	S: On the	ne abo	ove t	ime. d	ate and	l niece	e Harb		actor De	LL:	- DI	-	OTT.
<b>Boat Harbo</b>	r docks	for n	ossil	le liv	e shoer	- prac	oit wiel	Origi	asici Di	500l	יט ט	ענ	Oli and I inspected the Ala Wai Small
compliance	and sor	ne ve	ssels	in vi	olation	of Hav	waii A	dmi:	OS. HAC nistrativ	יוסס ס	mast	er i	OIT and I inspected the Ala Wai Small DUDOIT and I observed some vessels in

#### **OBSERVATION #1:**

On Friday January 25, 2013, at approximately 0030hrs, Harbormaster DUDOIT and I made a physical check on vesse HA-8078 B located in slip # 712. Nobody was aboard this vessel at this time. No violation.

compliance and some vessels in violation of Hawaii Administrative Rule 13-231-8 (a) Staying aboard vessels moored

Please continue on next page...

at Ala Wai or Keehi small boat harbor.

Page/of 2			
(Nasa)	Badge No. 140	Date/Time 03-10-13/1500	23. SUPERVISOR Badge No. APPROVING BADDENS BAD
Arrested/No Prosecution  Arrested/No Prosecution  25 Date/Time Reproduced	unded Adult	☑ Citation/No. ☐ Juver	Arrested/Prosecuted Other/No Arrest
	26. Dis	ribution	27 Connecting Report No.

### #13-1135-OA STAYING ABOARD VESSEL PERMIT VIOLATION CONTINUATION PAGE 2 of 2

#### **OBSERVATION #2:**

On Saturday, March 09, 2013, at approximately 0040hrs, Harbormaster DUDOIT and I made a physical check on vessel HA 0883 C located in slip # 822. At this time, while knocking on the side of the vessel, Harbormaster DUDOI and I heard and observed a person below the deck and in the living quarters of the vessel. The person later identified Richard CZERCOWY. At this time, Harbormaster DUDOIT told CZERCOWY that he was not allowed to stay on the vessel without first filling out the proper documentation and that he was in violation of the "staying aboard vessel" rules HAR 13-231-28 (a).

#### **OBSERVATION #2 CONT:**

VESSEL: HA-0883 C

#### CZERCOWY, Richard IDENTIFIED:

CZERCOWY, Richard Hgt: 5'5" wgt: 140lbs SSN:

#### **OBSERVATION #3:**

On Saturday, March 9, 2013, at approximately 0050hrs, Harbormaster DUDOIT and I made a physical check on vesse SHIBUI Doc#534693 located in slip #924. At this time, while knocking on the side of the vessel, Harbormaster DUDOIT and I heard and observed a person below the deck and in the living quarters of the vessel. The person later identified as Sandra BAUER. At this time, Harbormaster DUDOIT told KELLEY that he was not allowed to stay on the vessel without first filling out the proper documentation and that she was in violation of the "staying aboard vessel rules HAR 13-231-28 (a).

VESSEL:

SHIBUI Doc#534693

Sandra BAUER IDENTIFIED:

BAUER, Sandra

Hgt: 5'04" wgt: 117lbs

Dob: DL#: 100052055

#### **OBSERVATION #4:**

On Saturday, March 9, 2013, at approximately 0100hrs, Harbormaster DUDOIT and I made a physical check on vesse HA 9495 D located in slip # 931. Nobody was aboard at this time. No violation.

]

#### **DISPOSITION:**

The disposition of this investigation is pending on the DLNR Boards decision

Officer Christopher Moon #244

Badge: 140 03-10-13/1500hrs